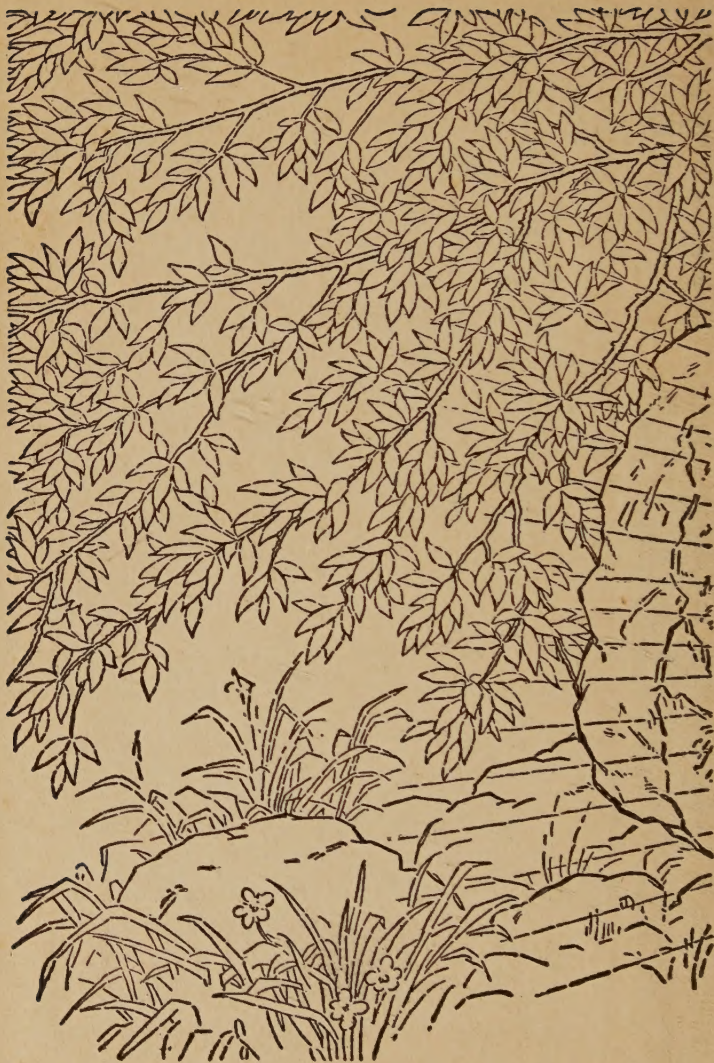


The SECRET of GOLD



*How to Get
What You Want*

ROBERT COLLIER





The
Secret of Gold

How to Get What You Want

In Two Volumes

VOLUME TWO

The Secret of Gold

How to Get What You Want



ROBERT COLLIER

VOLUME TWO

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IV

The Man of Brass

"Behold, *now* is the accepted time.
Behold, *now* is the day of salvation."

—II CORINTHIANS.

AWAY back in the 13th century, there lived a scientist so far ahead of his times that he had to record most of his discoveries in cypher—to keep from being burned at the stake.

Even as it was, he was thought by the ignorant to be a sorcerer, a magician, an apostate who had sold his soul to the devil. Only among the initiate was he known as "The Wonderful Doctor."

His name was Roger Bacon.

And wonderful he truly was. Many of the chemical formulas he discovered are in use today. He made gunpowder.

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He discovered the possibilities of the magnifying glass. He was a forerunner of Galileo and Copericus.

Innumerable legends grew up about him, some of which will be touched upon in the later volumes of this Course—notably his “Elixir of Life.” But the most persistent of these legends deals with “The Man of Brass.”

Bacon, you must know, had mastered seven different languages in his efforts to wrest from every possible source the secrets of science that had been known to previous ages. Among these languages was the Arabic. And one day there was brought to him an old Arabic manuscript which some wandering knight had picked up in far-away Palestine.

Bacon read the work and marvelled. It told first how to fashion a man of brass. Then, by means of clock-work and wires

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leading to certain jars of chemicals (the first crude storage batteries), how the eye-balls could be made to glow, the tongue to move, smoke to issue from the nostrils, and noise from the mouth. But most important of all—how, by adhering to certain directions, the Man of Brass could be made to speak *and reveal a secret of the utmost importance to every Englishman.*

For seven years, Roger Bacon toiled over his Man of Brass. He is reputed to have spent a fortune in scientific experiments, and no small part of it must have gone into this brazen image. At last it was finished. Everything had been done with the greatest care, strictly in accordance with the directions given in the manuscript.

Then he sat down and waited. For more than a month, there was never a

minute when Roger Bacon or his friend and confidante Friar Bungay was not sitting before the brazen image, listening for any sound it might utter. But neither friars nor philosophers can keep on without sleep.

One night, when Friar Bungay had gone home, Bacon was nodding in his chair before the image. "If I can keep awake but a few hours longer," he muttered, "the wonderful voice will speak and the great secret will be known." But he could not keep awake. His eyes would close in spite of himself. Finally he called his servant, admonished him to wake him immediately if the image should speak and went off to snatch a bit of rest.

The servant sat near the door, his eyes fastened in frightened fascination upon

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those of the image, his fingers gripped about the stout oaken cudgel in his hands.

Suddenly the eyes of the image glowed, its lips moved and in a sybilant whisper there issued from its mouth the words—

“TIME IS!”

The servant jumped to his feet and started to run, but as the brazen image seemed to remain rooted to the one spot, he paused on the threshold to see what more it might have to say.

Presently again the eyes lighted up, the lips moved, and a voice like the rattling of a kettle-drum shrilled out—

“TIME WAS!”

This time the servant all but fled. But before he could get the door open, the eyes glowed once more and in a voice of thunder there issued the words—

“TIME IS PAST!”

And with that the image fell and smashed into a thousand pieces.

Bacon is said to have been so bitterly disappointed at what he considered the wasting of all his seven years of labor that he burned his books, closed his study and spent the rest of his life in a monastery.

But had his work been wasted? Is there any secret of greater importance than the knowledge that—“*Time is NOW*”? Most of us are so busy regretting the past or planning what we are going to be and do in some far distant day or state that we overlook the chances for happiness and success that are all around us now.

The past is gone and done with. No amount of regrets will bring it back. So let us forget it—except in so far as we

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may draw lessons from it. Let our motto be "Yesterday ended last night."

As for the future—it is still ahead of us, and no man may tell what it holds.

But the present is ours to do with as we will. So let us live it to the utmost. "*Time IS*"—not has been or will be. "*Time passes*"—you will never have one bit more of time than you have this minute.

So what do you want to do with it? What have you to ask of the Father of Life—not next year, or ten years from now, or in some indefinite future state—but NOW?

There's an old Eastern legend that the gates of Paradise are opened only once in each thousand years. And judging by most people's attitude toward life, that belief seems to have obtained credence among us, for most of us look forward to

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happiness and success as something in the far distant future. We pray—but look for the result of our prayers in some vague future state.

“Behold, *now* is the accepted time,” declared Paul.

All of supply is already in existence. Why put off drawing upon it six months—or a year—or ten years? Why not charge the magnet of your mind to draw from Infinite Supply what you may want NOW?

“I cause those that love me to inherit substance, and I will fill their treasures.”
—Proverbs 8:21.

If you were to take a vote of the Christian peoples of the world, you would find them practically unanimous in believing that God intended to save their souls in the next world—but that in so far as their

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present existence is concerned, you've got to leave Him out of the reckoning!

Yet if you took from the Scriptures all those parts that tell of His succoring those in trouble—not in some far-off future state, but in this life; if you left out all His promises of protection and reward here on earth to those that loved Him and kept His commandments—how much of the Bible would there be left?

“And the Lord shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones; and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water whose waters fail not.”—Isaiah 58:11.

If only all could realize that even in the heart of the humblest laborer, of the poorest scrub-woman, lies the key to riches inexhaustible, what a world of poverty and misery we might avoid.

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“God shall supply all your need, according to His riches.”—Philippians 4:19.

Most of us find it easy enough to believe this when our pockets are full and all is going well with us. But let the wolf start scratching at the door and then watch us. Yet that is the very time when we most need faith! The fact is that we have more confidence in the weekly pay-envelope, uncertain as it is, than we have in the Almighty! Well might the Prophet of old say to us, as he sarcastically said to the idolaters of his day—“Ye have gods that ye carry, but *we have a God that carries us.*”

“God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that ye always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound in every good work.”—II Corinthians 9:8.

Consider the lilies of the field. Con-

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sider the birds; the denizens of the field; of the forest; of the air and the water; they don't lack for what they need. The big difference between them and you is that you have been given free will. You don't need to go to the Father unless you wish. You can struggle and toil on your own account. You can look upon this as a vale of tears—and find it so. Or you can do your best—and then rest in the arms of the Father while “He doeth the works.”

“Yea, the Almighty shall be thy defence, and thou shalt have plenty of silver.”—Job 22:25.

All that you need, all of good that you want, is right at your hand. Remember, when the disciples had been fishing all night and caught nothing, how Jesus told them to cast their nets on the *right* side

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—and they caught so many fish that their nets were full to overflowing?

If He could fill the nets of these discouraged fishermen with fish, don't you suppose He can just as easily fill your nets with whatever it is you may be fishing for?

"The soul answers never by words," says Emerson, "but by the thing itself sought after."

Have you ever seen the Hopi Indians' Snake Dance—their prayer for rain? It is probably the oldest religious ceremony on this continent, and it is said that it never yet has failed to bring the rains.

"Speak to Him thou, for He heareth
When Spirit with Spirit doth meet;
Closer is He than breathing,
And nearer than hands and feet."

Scientists may talk learnedly of atmospheric conditions and natural laws, but

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the fact remains—the Indians send up their heartfelt prayers to the Holy Spirit in simple faith—and so far as is known, the rains have never failed to promptly come!

“Whither shall I go from thy Spirit?” cried the Psalmist of old, “Or whither shall I flee from Thy presence? If I ascend up into heaven Thou art there; if I make my bed in hell, behold Thou art there. If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; even there shall Thy hand lead me and Thy right hand shall hold me. If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me.” —Psalms 139:7-11.

There is in this universe a Power that hears the cry of the human heart. There is behind us a Father “whose good pleasure it is to give us the Kingdom.” You

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don't have to beg Him for the good things of life any more than you have to beg the sun for its heat. You have only to draw near and take of the bountiful supply He is constantly holding out to you.

"Before ye call, I shall answer."

So what is it you want of the Father of Life? A house? A toy? A car? Success in this or that undertaking? Health? Love? Happiness?

Whatever it is, you can have it. Whatever of good you ask for with earnest desire and simple faith, the Father will gladly give.

Does this sound too simple, too direct? Do you feel that it is a bit sacreligious to be asking the Father for worldly things? Just listen:

"And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

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“For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

“If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a Father, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent?

“Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion?

“If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?”—Luke 11:9-13.

And those words came—not from any Prophet or Disciple, but from the lips of the Master Himself!

So have no hesitancy in going to Him about little things. Don't you suppose He is as glad to see you clothed in a new suit or new dress as He is to see the birds

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preening their new feathers, the wild things of the forest in their shining new coat, the snake and his like in their new skins? Don't you suppose it gives Him as much pleasure to give you something you have been longing for as it gladdens the heart of an earthly father to give a much-desired toy to his little boy?

"Thou openest thy hand and satisfieth the desire of every living thing."

I have had people write me that prayer has brought to them such simple little things as flowers, as toys for the children, as an automobile. Last Christmas one reader wrote me that he had needed \$500. That he had put his problem before the Father confidently, believingly. Then left it with Him. To use his own words, "the \$500 came from so unexpected a source that if the

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President himself had sent it to him, he would not have been more surprised."

"No good things will He withhold from them that walketh uprightly."

The very fact that you have some earnest desire is the best evidence that the answer to that desire is in the great heart of God.

"Time is NOW!"

That earnest desire of yours is in the present. And the supply is just as much so. The Father is just as much present here and now as He will ever be. So why put off the realization of your desires to some vague and distant future? Why not realize them in the now?

What is it that you want?

Whatever it is, it already exists somewhere, in some form. And if your desire be strong enough, your faith great enough you can attract it to you.

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There are riches in abundance for you. They already exist. They are labeled YOURS in the mind of the Father. And until you get them, they will remain idle. You don't have to take them from someone else. You don't have to envy anyone else what he has. All you have to KNOW is that somewhere all of riches that you can ever desire are lying waiting for you.

Don't try to get them all at once.

If you had a million dollars on deposit in some bank, you wouldn't rush there and draw it out, to carry around with you or to hide about the house. No—as long as you had confidence in the integrity of the bank, you would leave your money on deposit there, drawing upon it merely as you needed it.

Have you less confidence in the Bank of the Father than in those of man?

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Must you ask It for all your heritage at once for fear the Bank will fail? Or can you do as Jesus did, as He told us all to do, ask each day for that day's needs—"Give us this day our daily bread"—in the simple faith that our every draft will be met promptly, fully, no matter what the size?

The man who has that simple faith will not try to pinch pennies. He won't "pass by on the other side" when a worthy need approaches him. Neither will he throw away money foolishly—"casting pearls before swine."

He will spend cheerfully—for any right purpose. He will bless the money he sends out—as Jesus blessed the loaves and the fishes—putting it to work in the confident knowledge that when used gainfully, it will come back increased and multiplied.

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The same thing applies to your home, to your surroundings. There is a perfect home for you already built in the Father's mind. Know this—realize it—then, like Hagar in the wilderness, pray that your eyes may be opened that you may SEE this perfect home that is yours.

There is a perfect position for you. A perfect mate. A perfect work. A perfect idea of each cell and organism in your body. In later volumes of this set, I shall try to show you how through the promises of the Scriptures these may all be realized. Suffice it now to say that they all exist in the Father's mind. It is up to you merely to *seek* that you may find them.

You have the most powerful magnet on earth right within your own mind. Uncover it! Charge it with desire and faith. Speak the word that sends the

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Holy Spirit that is within you in quest of what you wish. Then cast the burden upon Him and thereafter look upon your desire as an accomplished fact.

“Whatsoever ye ask for when ye pray, believe that ye *receive* it and ye shall have it.”

Prepare for the thing you have asked for, even though there be not the slightest sign of its coming. Act the part! Like the three Kings in the desert, dig your ditches to receive the water, even though there be not a cloud in the sky. And your ditches will be filled—even as were theirs.

“Be still—and know that I am God!” Wait calmly, confidently, in the full assurance that the Father has what you want and will gladly give it to you.

One's ships come in over a calm sea.

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The Law of Karma

You have probably heard of the Law of Karma. It is Sanskrit, you know, for "Comeback." It is one of the oldest laws known to man—yet perhaps the least regarded.

It is the law of the boomerang. Jesus quoted it: "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

In the parlance of today, it is—"Chickens come home to roost." Even in science we find it, as Newton's Third Law of Motion—"Action and reaction are always equal to each other."

Wherein does this law affect us now? Only in that, if you wish riches, if you long for happiness, health, success, you must *think* abundance, you must charge your mind with happy thoughts, healthy thoughts, optimistic thoughts.

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If you are seeking riches, you will never get them by stopping up all the avenues of outgo, and waiting for your vessel to fill up from the top. I remember one man who wrote me from down in West Virginia that when he received *The Secret of the Ages* he was a farmhand, working for \$1 a day. Through the confidence and knowledge acquired through the books, he had landed a job at \$6.20 a day of eight hours, where before he had labored for twelve hours on the farm. But, he wrote, "I've returned the books. You gave me time to get out of them what I wanted and return at your expense without buying them. I think now I can make a million. So I don't want to spend any money now. I want to make my million." That man was like a funnel—big at the receiving end, but little at the outgoing part. The Law of

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Karma will get him before he has gone far. You have got to cast your bread upon the waters, in the secure confidence that it will come back to you multiplied an hundredfold.

If you are longing for a beautiful home, you will never get it by thinking thoughts of poverty and lack. Forget the state of your pocketbook. Your supply is not there. All supply is in the Father, "with Whom is no variableness nor shadow of turning." So go to the Father with your desire. Try to picture in your mind's eye the perfect home that already is yours in Divine Mind. Make it complete in every detail. Realize that this perfect home *is yours*—that it already exists—in the mind of the Father. Then send forth the Holy Spirit to bring it to you or you to it.

Don't ask for some particular house.

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Ask, if you wish, for one like it. Don't try to take that which is another's. Know that the one perfect home for you already exists in Divine Mind, even though you may never have seen it. Then leave it to the Holy Spirit to manifest it.

"All that the Kingdom affords is yours."

Speak the word—then cast the burden upon the Holy Spirit within. The Father sends His gifts in His own way, even as earthly fathers frequently do. Make all preparations for them—dig your ditches—open up the windows of your soul. Be ready to receive.

Remember, in Genesis I:1-2—"In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. *And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.*"

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That Spirit of God still moves upon the face of the waters. And upon the face of the land. That Spirit of God is the Holy Spirit within you. And just as He helped to form the earth from the void, so will He bring form to your dreams, your desires. If only you do your part. If only you have the faith. If only you can cast the burden upon Him—confidently, believingly!

“Oh Judah, fear not; but tomorrow go out against them, for the Lord will be with you. You shall not need to fight this battle; set yourselves, stand you still, *and see the salvation of the Lord with you.*”

And the time to do it is NOW.

V

Start Something!

"And I have filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship,

"To devise cunning works, to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass,

"And in cutting of stones, to set them, and in carving timber, to work in all manner of workmanship.

"And I, behold, I have given with him Aholiah, the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan: and in the hearts of all that are wise hearted I have put wisdom, that they may make all that I have commanded thee."—EXODUS 31:3-6.

A Spanish adventurer gets together a following of a couple of thousand out-at-elbows soldiers of fortune like himself—and with them conquers a nation! A disciplined, well-led warlike nation numbering millions! Defeats armies ten

START SOMETHING

times the size of his little force, time after time! Captures a walled city garrisoned by a great army and protected by dykes and canals, and makes its emperor prisoner!

I refer to Hernando Cortez, conqueror of Mexico.

Another Spaniard, with a handful of followers, enslaves the whole of Peru, carries away the vast treasures of the Incas, makes Spain the richest nation on the globe!

That was 400 years ago, but it is easy enough to find their counterparts today. A few years ago Persia had been almost dismembered by Russia and England. And Reza Khan was but a poor trooper in the Persian army. Today Persia has been restored to an independent state—and Reza Khan is its Ruler.

Before the war Mussolini was an un-

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known Socialist worker. During the war, a common soldier. Today he is head of a re-nationalized Italy.

Ebert, a saddle-maker before the war—becomes President of the new German Republic. Trotsky, a waiter in a cheap New York restaurant—is made War Minister of Soviet Russia. Mustapha Kemal, a good soldier—but until the war unknown—makes himself Ruler of Turkey. Every day brings its grist of new stars in the world firmament—new and comet-like rises to fame.

How do they do it? What is the secret behind such phenomenal successes?

Not education—many of these men had no education to speak of. Not training—none of them was ever trained for real leadership. Then what is it?

Just one thing these men all had in common—the daring to *start something!*

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If Cortez had been content to sit around in Cuba and wait for something to turn up, do you suppose we should ever have heard of him?

If Reza Khan had been content to do his mere duty as a Persian trooper; if Mussolini had sat down and rested on his laurels as a soldier; if Ebert had been satisfied to keep on making saddles; if Mustapha Kemal had merely obeyed whatever orders he received; do you suppose their countrymen would have started out on a still hunt for them, routed them out of their obscurity and put them at the head of their governments?

Not in a thousand years!

You may—and do—possess latent ability equal to any man on earth; you have ready to your call, through the Holy Spirit within you, not merely the wisdom of a Solomon but the Wisdom of God!

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Yet all of this will not get you anywhere—all of this will never result in the world calling upon you to lead it—unless you *use it to start something!*

“Bubbles”

You know the air castles a young fellow builds when he is planning his future with his Best Girl. You know what pictures of wonderful achievement he can paint for her. The wealth of the Indies is but a trifle compared with the fortune he is going to lay at her feet.

“Day dreams,” we call them—and laugh good-naturedly at the fondness of youth and love for believing in such bubbles, such figments of the imagination. But these dreams are very real and very dear to every boy—and girl. They embody all those things they hope some day soon to see materialize.

The only trouble with them is, that with most of us these bubbles are so soon pricked. We meet with discouragement. The fine point of our enthusiasm and ambition is blunted. Soon we lapse into a regular grind, and the man we hoped to be, the man we painted in such glowing terms to our Sweetheart—the man she really married—quietly passes out, leaving nothing but the husk of what might have been.

Is it any wonder there are so many unhappy marriages, when you compare the realities a man actually gives to the girl who marries him, with the "Bubbles" he promised her before?

The wonder is that so many girls shed only a few tears over their shattered dreams, forget their disillusionment, and knuckle down to the tiresome, dispiriting daily round of cooking and housework—

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of tending babies and being good wives to their plodding husbands.

The greatest waste in business today is the waste of the enthusiasm of all the fine young fellows that go into it. True—their enthusiasm is frequently misdirected—but that is *your* opportunity. Go look at Niagara Falls!

For uncounted years the Niagara River dashed over its rocky cliff, the power of millions of horses behind it—a beautiful sight for the occasional tourist—but nothing more!

Today that same Niagara turns the wheels of a hundred great industries—gives light and power to all of Western New York—is soon to become the basis of a giant super-power system for the entire Northeast.

What made the difference? The Niagara has not changed—it had exactly

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the same power afore-time. 'Tis simply that man has learned how to *direct* that power, to *use* that energy for useful purposes.

"Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser," says the Proverbs (9); "teach a just man, and he will increase in learning."

Remember the story of the young King of the Black Isles? He started out full of high ambitions. But the wicked enchantress (Lack of Initiative) turned him into black marble from the waist down. So he was condemned to sit in his palace and bemoan his fate until there came a new King to lift the spell, to inspire him for high emprise, to keep him from ever again lapsing into the state of half man and half statue.

"And Moses said unto the Lord, O my Lord, I am not eloquent, neither hereto-

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fore, nor since thou hast spoken unto thy servant: but I am slow of speech, and of a slow tongue.

“And the Lord said unto him, Who hath made man’s mouth? Or who maketh the dumb, or deaf, or the seeing, or the blind? Have not I the Lord?

“Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say.”

The world’s most tragic figure is the man who never starts anything. He is dead from the waist down. He sits and wishes and dreams; he goes through motions, doing routine things that a machine could do just as well, but he never gets anywhere.

How did Carnegie make his millions? By finding a new way to make steel—and then starting to *do* it! How did Woolworth, how did Penny, make their suc-

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cesses? By trying out new methods of merchandising—by starting something. How did Ford become the richest man in the world? By visioning the new transportation within the reach of every one—and then starting to put it there!

You want to get out of the rut—to grow—to develop into something better. And there are unnumbered new methods in industry, new inventions, new ideas—waiting merely to be uncovered.

To whom will these prizes go? Nine times out of ten to the man who starts something—to the man who dreams great dreams, and then has the courage, the belief in himself, in his Spirit, in his Destiny, to make the start, to take the plunge, *to go!*

“And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and

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might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.—Isaiah II.

The Things That Can't Be Done

When John MacDonald first proposed to build the great New York subways, people laughed at him. He went to one "big" financier after another, and the answer of all was the same. "Dig a tunnel under all these streets and houses, with their maze of pipe lines and electric cables and gas mains and sewers? Impossible!"

But through it all he held to the one main idea. "You have a cellar under your house, haven't you?" he asked them. "And you dug it without much trouble, didn't you? Well, I'm not thinking of building a tunnel the length of this island. I'm planning to dig a string of cellars—*and then connect them together!*"

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And he finally found a man big enough to see the idea—and to back it.

"Thou shalt make thy prayer unto Him, and He shall hear thee, and thou shalt pay thy vows.

"Thou shalt also decree a thing, and it shall be established unto thee: and the light shall shine upon thy ways."—Job 22:27-28.

In this day of miracles, it would be a hardy spirit that would say that anything is impossible. The time is not far distant when men will harness the tides, get motive power and much of their food from the air and from the tropic seas, talk to anyone anywhere and see them while they talk. These and a thousand other inventions even more wonderful are in the very air. Why shouldn't you be the one to start some of them?

You don't need to be an engineer. You

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don't need to be an inventor. Pasteur was not a doctor, yet he did more for medical science than any doctor. Whitney was not a cotton planter. Not even a Southerner. He was a Connecticut school teacher. Yet he invented the cotton gin! Bell was a professor of elocution, and he once said that he invented the telephone because he knew nothing of electricity. He didn't know it couldn't be done! Morse, of telegraphic fame, was a portrait painter—not an electrician. Dunlop (maker of tires) was a veterinary surgeon. Gillette was a traveling salesman. Eastman a bank clerk. Ingersoll a mechanic. Harriman a broker. Gary a lawyer.

In fact, most of the great inventors and pioneers have been outsiders. Why? They don't know the things that can't be done—*so they go ahead and do them!*

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"Opportunity," says Doc Lane, "is as scarce as oxygen; men fairly breathe it and do not know it."

"But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

"But God hath revealed them unto us by His Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

"For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? Even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God."—I Corinthians 2:9-11.

It is not necessary to have a "pull" to succeed. In fact, a "pull" is more often than not just that—a pull *backward*. What we need is the "push" of necessity. For most of us are so constituted that, unless we have to put into the fight all our

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strength and energy, we just jog along in a slothful, ambitionless sort of way, getting nowhere.

The saving event in many a man's life has been the blow that knocked the props out from under him and left him to look out for himself. As Emerson put it: "It is only as a man puts off all foreign support and stands alone that I see him firm and to prevail. He is weaker by every recruit to his banner."

So never envy the man with a "pull." Pity him. He has lost the greatest thing there is in business—the need for individual initiative.

You say you have to start at the bottom, while Bill Smith's father left him enough money to begin at the head of a real business? Never mind. Start something—even if it be only a peanut stand—and ten years from now you will have not only

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some very valuable experience, but a business that will be paying you dividends and give you an insurance for the future. Whereas the chances are that though Bill Smith may have the experience, that is all he will have. Most of the big businesses of today, you know, started on a shoestring.

"Thus saith the Lord; Refrain thy voice from weeping, and thine eyes from tears: for thy work shall be rewarded, saith the Lord."—Jeremiah 31.

Democracy is equality, not of place, but of opportunity. Just because you were born on Fifth Avenue doesn't mean that you are going to stay there. And just because you were born on the East Side doesn't mean that you have got to stay there. Al Smith is but one of thousands who have come up from humble sur-

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roundings to the topmost rung of the ladder of success.

“Always the real leaders of men,” says Dr. Frank Crane, “the real kings, have come up from the common people. The finest flowers in the human flora grow in the woods pasture and not in the hot-house; no privileged class, no Royal house, no carefully selected stock produced a Leonardo or a Michelangelo in art, a Shakespeare or Burns in letters, a Galli Curci or Paderewski in music, a Socrates or Kant in philosophy, an Edison or Pasteur in science, a Wesley or a Knox in religion.”

The Law of Compensation is constantly at work. When men grow to put too much dependence upon the fortune or the institution or the position that has been given them, these props are suddenly removed. When through grim necessity

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they have learned not to rely upon anything short of the Infinite, the channels of supply are reopened to them.

“Put not your trust in Princes,” advised the Psalmist. Not because Princes are so much more unreliable than ordinary men, but because they are mere tributaries—even as you are—to the King of Kings.

Put not your trust in some other man or institution. Go direct to the Fount! Don’t tap some other man’s channel. Go direct to the main Source of Supply!

“By me kings reign, and princes decree justice.

“By me princes rule, and nobles, even all the judges of the earth.

“I love them that love me; and those that seek me early shall find me.

“Riches and honour are with me; yea,

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durable riches and righteousness.”—Proverbs 8:15-19.

Be King in Your Own Thoughts

“Every man,” says a mediaeval writer, “has within him the making of a great saint.”

And every one of us has in him the making of a great success.

“Less than a year ago,” reads a letter to me from W. Bruce Haughton, “I started in the automotive business in Jacksonville with \$23.00 in my pocket. I bought \$14.40 worth of tools and rented a two-car garage in the back yard of the house where I rented a room. I then went to several of the city professional men and told them what I could do for their cars. In thirty days I had a net return of \$476.80 with an overhead of about \$50.00.

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"In June, 1926, I had to find bigger quarters to handle my business, for I then had 591 regular customers coming to my 'Back Yard' for service they could not buy elsewhere. Today I am negotiating with a concern for another corner in the best part of this city to handle my patrons who live in that section."

In the newspaper the other day, I read how Palmer C. Hayden, a negro, 33 years old, was quitting his scrub bucket to study art in Europe. He had just won the \$400 prize in art awarded by the Harmon Foundation. He had the courage to start something.

I know a young fellow who, while still in College, got the idea through a chance occurrence that there was an entirely virgin field among the undertakers for raincoats—black raincoats. He reasoned that there were so few undertakers in each

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city that no store could afford to carry a complete range of sizes for them, whereas one central store, selling to the whole country, could do so.

So he borrowed a few dollars and tried out his idea by mail. Today he is a millionaire—and it has all been the logical outcome of that one idea.

He started something.

If you could only realize that you have a definite place in a scheme so big that God has been working millions of years to bring it about; if you would only remember that every forward step you take has His approval and help; if you would look upon Him as a loving Father watching you, His little son, taking a few faltering steps, ready to catch you when you stumble, ready to help you over the difficult places, ready to strengthen and support you—how much of fear and worry

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you would avoid, how much more surely you would progress.

“If ye walk in my statutes, and keep my commandments, and do them;

“Then I will give you rain in due season, and the land shall yield her increase, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit.

“And your threshing shall reach unto the vintage, and the vintage shall reach unto the sowing time: and ye shall eat your bread to the full, and dwell in your land safely.

“And I will give peace in the land, and ye shall lie down, and none shall make you afraid.”—Leviticus 26:3-6.

But to progress, it is necessary that you learn to take a few steps for yourself. You can't remain tied to the Father's apron-strings if you are to become a man or woman worthy of the name.

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You know how much these "Mother's darlings" are good for when they get out among other boys. You know how long these pampered children of the rich usually last, when they are thrown upon their own resources.

The Father above has the wisdom and the courage to do what very few earthly fathers can. He gives his children free will. He turns them loose, in a world full of pitfalls and dangers, to learn self-reliance, to become real men and women, worthy Sons of God.

Yet He is always just behind us. His arms ready to support us. His hand to guide us. His wisdom to counsel us—if only we will realize His presence, His solicitude, His Fatherly love and care.

"He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might, he increaseth strength."—Isaiah 40:29.

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He has given us free will, so He will not force Himself upon us. He has untied our apron-strings, so He won't *make* us take the great place He plans for us in the Divine scheme of things. But if we will learn to work with Him, if we will treat Him as a Father, run to Him with our joys as with our sorrows, have Him at the back of all our plans, know that we can rely upon His help in all our undertakings, what a difference it will make!

You need never hesitate then to start anything of good, because you will know that with Him behind you, it can not fail. You will never lack the faith, the enthusiasm, the power to carry through even the most difficult undertaking. Most of all, you will never lack the will to begin, for you will know that even the Father can not help you to accomplish, until

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you yourself have taken the first step by
STARTING SOMETHING!

“Since receiving your first books,” writes M. D. C. of Capitola, California, “I have made from insurance premiums in a new company which I was instrumental in forming, more than \$100,000.00 in a little over six months’ time. My previous income over a period of years has been approximately \$7,500.00 per year.”

He started something!

“And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God.”
—Luke 11:28.

The Starting Point

Now, how about you—have *you* started anything? Do you want to? Then let’s take stock of you for a moment:

1. The first thing to do is to list all of

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your successes, no matter how unimportant they may seem. Go back to your boyhood days. What was your favorite game. Was it one that required initiative, quick thinking, prompt action? Were you a better "individual-player" or "team-player"? In other words, were you a brilliant "star," or one of those who could sink his own individuality for the good of the team? Did you ever captain any team successfully? Did your teammates like you, work with you enthusiastically? Could you inspire loyalty, cooperation, weld your team into a single unit with a common purpose?

Qualities such as these can be acquired, of course, but if you had them naturally as a boy, then you have them now, so by all means develop them to their fullest extent. They can be made your most valuable assets in business.

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2. What sort of game do you prefer now? One that depends primarily upon yourself—or one that demands mostly team-work? Games are wonderful indicators, you know, of your innate characteristics. I used to know a very shrewd old fellow who never formed a business friendship until after he had played poker with his prospective friend. How do you play bridge—*with* your partner or regardless of him? How do you play tennis—as two individual players, or as a team?

Don't misunderstand me—I am not decrying brilliant individual play. I am just trying to get you to analyze your innate characteristics. If you play best alone, by all means concentrate on the kind of work or the kind of business that is built up around one single figure. On the other hand, if your forte is team-work,

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cooperation—go in for organized effort where your leadership and fairness and good-fellowship will have the greatest play.

3. List your characteristics frankly. Ability in particular lines, quickness in picking up new ideas, open-mindedness, versatility, honesty, sociability, interest in others, power to convince others, courage, aggressiveness, stick-to-it-iveness.

In short, analyze yourself frankly—then from that analysis, from your past failures and successes, pick the work you have the greatest aptitude for—and go into it!

Don't go into it blindly. First study it. There are good books on every phase of business today. There are correspondence courses as good as any taught in colleges. Get them. Read them. Set your goal. Make your plans carefully.

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Start them in a small way first. Test each step before you put your weight upon it. But once sure of it, put your *whole* weight into it—your money and your ability and all your thought—*particularly all your thought*.

Don't scatter your energies. You can do it with the work of your hands but you can't do it with your thought. To make a great success, your thought has to be concentrated on your goal in the same way that the Marconi beam system concentrates all the power of its rays in the one direction. "No man can serve two masters"—with justice to either.

Choose your goal ; then, like the searchlight, concentrate all your efforts, all your energies, all your thoughts in the one direction. Don't go running off after false gods. Don't fritter away your energies on inconsequential side-issues. Focus

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them—focus them as you focus the rays of the sun through a magnifying glass. Do that—and you will speedily start something!

There is a definite place for you in the Divine plan. There is a work which you are to do, which no one else can do quite as well. Pray, therefore, to the Father that He may open your eyes to your right work, that He may open your ears to the promptings of His voice, that He may open your understanding of the right way.

“I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye.”—Psalms 32:8.

VI

Rough Diamonds

“And he hath filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship.

“And to devise curious works, to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass.

“And in the cutting of stones, to set them, and in carving of wood, to make any manner of cunning work.”—EXODUS 35:31-33.

OVER in the northwestern corner of Pennsylvania a few years ago, there lived a farmer who was interested in oil. His brother was in the oil business in Canada and had told him that fortunes were being made in it every day. So he sent for all kinds of books that told how and where to locate oil, took a course in geology, spent two years getting ready—and then sold his farm and went to Canada to work in the oil fields.

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The man who bought the farm, walking over the place next morning, came to a little brook that ran through the middle of it. There was a heavy board across the brook to hold back the surface drift, and back of it for some yards the water was coated with a thick scum.

It seems that this scum had troubled the previous owner for a long time. The cattle wouldn't drink the water with it on it. So he had conceived the idea of the board to clear the scum from the surface and let the cattle drink from the water below.

To the new buyer, that "scum" looked and smelled and tasted suspiciously like oil! He sent for experts. They bored. And opened up one of the richest oil fields in Pennsylvania!

It is natural to think that the first step towards success is to go somewhere else

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or into some new business. The distant pastures always look greenest. But more often than not, our best opportunities lie right under our own nose.

When the original Pennsylvania oil wells seemed to be worked out, most of the oil men set off for fields and pastures new. But a few stayed. And those few found that the surface had merely been scratched! Instead of being worked out, scarcely 15 per cent. of the oil had been taken out of the ground. By the pressure system, or by boring deeper and striking new deposits, they found the other 85 per cent.!

And that is only one industry out of hundreds where fortunes have been made out of what other men had thrown away as worthless. No one has yet exhausted any line of thought. The inventions that mankind has already made are merely the

introduction to bigger and greater things—the open door to opportunity. The most brilliant scientists are the first to tell you that their discoveries are but as a drop of water to the great ocean of achievement that lies beyond.

“For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.”—Habakuk 2:14.

Nearly a century and a half ago, Malthus propounded his famous theory that population, when unchecked, tends to increase in geometrical proportion, whereas subsistence increases only in arithmetical proportion. In other words, that population increases many times as rapidly as the means of subsistence. And he visioned a time in the very near future when artificial checks would have to be put on population, or the world would starve.

Population has increased very near to the point he feared, but what has happened? We are farther away from the saturation point than in his day! The age of machinery came along; the age of scientific experiment; and not only opened up new fields through better transportation, but greatly increased the yields in present fields. Now Prof. Albrecht Penck advances the belief that by the year 2227 there will be 8,000,000,000 people here on earth—and famine will be continuous, because the earth cannot support that many!

What little faith some of these economists have! They get so wrapped up in their own calculations that they can see nothing else. "By that time (2227 A. D.)," says the New York Herald Tribune, "man may be taking foodstuffs from the sunlight, from the air or from the

power of the revolving earth! The only safe prediction about the future of man is that no limit dare be set to what he and Nature may cooperate to do."

"For I know the thoughts that I think towards you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you an expected end. Then, shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me and I will hearken unto you. And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart."—Jeremiah 29:11-13.

For 5,000 years men have built houses of brick, and in all of that time there had been no change made, either in the tools used, or in the manner in which the work was done.

Along came Frank Gilbreth, studied the motions involved in laying brick, re-

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duced them from eighteen to five, and increased the hourly output from 120 to 350 bricks!

Simple enough—but it took 5,000 years for someone to think up this simple solution.

For 5,000 years mankind has been taught that some men are born with ability—some without—and that those without must serve those who have it.

No greater mistake was ever made. Every man is born with ability sufficient to carry him upward to the highest rung of success. "Ordinary ability, properly applied," said Theodore N. Vail, "is all that is necessary to reach the highest rung in the ladder of success."

Life's biggest blunder is to underestimate your own power to develop and accomplish. What if you are handicapped by lack of education, by poverty, by self-

consciousness, by sickness, by some physical disability?

Thank God for it! A handicap is the greatest urge you can have towards success. Like the eagle which uses adverse winds to rise higher, you can mount to success on your handicap.

In an editorial some time ago, the New York Globe observed: "Nature is not democratic. She gives some women beauty and leaves others, of equal or greater merit, plain. She makes some persons intelligent and some stupid. In brief, we are not born free and equal nor do we become so. To some the Gods bring gifts and others they pass by. There are aristocracies of voices, of beauty and of intelligence. The best that democracy can ever do is to give every Caruso a chance to sing."

That is the general belief. That is the

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idea that prevails among most casual thinkers. But the man who thinks thus is overlooking the greatest force in life—the reserve force that lies so dormant in most of us—the power of the Spirit within to rise superior to any inequality, to overcome any seeming handicap or difficulty.

The greatest thing that can happen to any man is the discovery of this all-powerful Spirit within him. If it is necessary for him to undergo hunger, if it is necessary for him to suffer sickness or injury in order to make the discovery, let him suffer it cheerfully, gladly! No price is too high to pay to bring into your affairs the power of the Holy Spirit. For everything you have suffered, everything you have paid, will be made good to you an hundredfold. There is no maybe about this. I have seen it work out hun-

dreds of times. I have learned it from very bitter experience. As in the case of Job of olden times:

"The Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before.

"So the Lord blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning; for he had fourteen thousand sheep, and six thousand camels, and a thousand yoke of oxen and a thousand she asses.

"He had also seven sons and three daughters."—Job 42:10, 12, 13.

The Law of Compensation

What was it made Demosthenes the greatest orator of all time. NOT his natural gifts—but his natural *handicaps*! He was self-conscious. And he stuttered. Had he not been thus handicapped, he would probably have become a mediocre orator—and lived and died

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unknown to the world. But he had to study so hard to overcome his natural handicaps, he had to practice and work so long and so whole-heartedly, that when at last he was ready to appear before the public, his conscious efforts were backed by all the powers of the subconscious. He had so often called upon the Spirit within to help him in his practice that it came to his aid of Itself when the real need arose. It stood at his back to give him confidence, to lend him inspiration, to supply the power that moved his hearers as they had never been moved before.

In "Organ Inferiority and Its Psychic Compensation," Dr. Adler brings out the well-known scientific fact that any physical weakness or inferiority brings with it an extra urge to strive for superiority in some compensating way.

Napoleon, Caesar, Prince Eugene were

little men, but the urge within them made them the biggest men of their day.

Whistler, the greater painter, had poor eyes. He was said to be color blind. So he became a master in nuances. Edison was deaf—so he perfected the talking machine.

Beethoven, Mozart, Franz—all had defects in hearing. And worked so hard at their music that they became masters of technique, and musical geniuses.

The same principle applies to nations. Take Alaska and Switzerland as an instance. Alaska has enormous resources of gold and silver and copper and coal, vast virgin forests, 1,000,000 square miles suitable for agriculture, and the greatest fisheries in the world. Yet if Alaska were as densely populated as Switzerland it would be supporting 120,000,000 inhabitants!

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The Swiss have few natural resources, so they are constrained to use their ingenuity instead. They take a ton of metal and put it together in such form as to make it worth a million dollars. They take cotton thread at 20 cents a pound, and convert it into lace worth \$2,000 a pound. They take a block of wood worth 10 cents and convert it into a carving worth \$100. And because as a nation they have learned the art of utilizing their talents, they have prospered abundantly.

Where is the moral? Simply this:

There is no lack, no handicap, *nothing*, that can defeat you. Obstacles are the greatest blessings God can give you. They bring out the soul of you. They bring the Holy Spirit to your help. And anything which acquaints you with the Spirit within you, anything that gives you

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an understanding of the infinite power within you, anything that brings the Holy Spirit into your daily affairs, is worth while no matter what its cost.

"And Jacob was left alone; and there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day.

"And when he saw that he prevailed not against him, he touched the hollow of his thigh; and the hollow of Jacob's thigh was out of joint, as he wrestled with him.

"And he said, Let me go, for the day breaketh. And he said, I will not let thee go, *except thou bless me.*

"And he said unto him, What is thy name? And he said, Jacob.

"And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed.

"And Jacob asked him, and said, Tell me, I pray thee, thy name. And he said, Wherefore is it that thou dost ask after my name? *And he blessed him there."*

That is what you, too, must do. Wrestle with every difficulty until you have learned something from it. Don't let go of any trouble until you have made it bless you.

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Remember that back of you always is the power of the Holy Spirit and if the need arises, it can give you the strength—not merely of one man, but of ten! Like David going out to meet Goliath, realize that it is not you who is fighting the battle, but God. “Be not afraid, nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours but God’s.”—II Chronicles 20:15. Knowing that, no obstacle need deter you, no experience terrify you. With God on your side, you are always in the majority. Struggles and trials are mere growing pains of your soul, to teach you that, though terrifying to you alone, they are as nothing to you when allied to the Father through the Holy Spirit.

“When thou liest down thou shalt not be afraid; yea thou shalt lie down, and thy sleep shall be sweet. Be not afraid

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of sudden fear, neither of the desolation of the wicked when it cometh. For the Lord shall be thy confidence, and shall keep thy foot from being taken. My confidence is in Him in whom I live and move and have my being."

Before you give up where you are and move to distant fields, before you seek your fortune afar, look around you! See if some of the riches in your own back yard won't bear cultivating.

There is a story told of an old Boer farmer living on a rocky bit of ground on the road between Kimberley and Pretoria. Scattered here and there over the ground, they often found dull looking pieces of crystal. The boys used them to throw at the sheep. Until one day a Cecil Rhodes engineer happened that way—and *discovered them to be diamonds!*

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Many of us are just as literally walking on diamonds in the rough as were that farmer's boys. Only most of us never know it until someone comes along and points them out to us.

Let us resolve to do some of this discovering for our own selves. Let us look at every job with the question—how can this be done easier, quicker, better? Let us devote part of our thoughts to finding new outlets, new methods, new needs. Let us get a fixed objective—and then work towards it. Some great thinker once said that we should be a world of successes if the idea of a fixed objective and a set goal possessed us.

A fixed objective—it serves much the same as the controlling idea outlined in Chapter 3, magnetizing your thoughts and your work and yourself with the one intense desire. Add to that a sublime

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faith that shall bring the Holy Spirit within into cooperation with you—and your objective is assured.

“First have something good,” said Horace Greeley, “then advertise!” First have your fixed objective, then call upon the Holy Spirit to help you, and there is no goal you cannot win.

“For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie; though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come; it will not tarry.”—Habakkuk 2:3.

I know a man who had a \$2,500 job. He had just been offered another paying \$500 more. And he went to a friend of mine to ask his advice about changing. The first question my friend asked was what he had to offer these new people. He told him, the usual round of routine knowledge.

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"That isn't worth much," my friend informed him. "These people are in the same line of business that you have been working at for years. If in all those years you haven't thought out ways in which that work could be vastly improved, if you haven't been perfecting in your own mind short cuts, money-saving ways, practical ideas—then hold on to your \$2,500 job until you do. You're not worth a cent more.

"My advice to you is to go home and write down on paper what you have to offer this new firm. What new methods you can show them that any other \$2,500 man can't. What new ideas you have that will make money for them.

"When you get them all down, center your attention on the best of them, and work it out. Then go to these people and tell them you will give them your

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idea and your services—NOT for \$3,000, but for \$6,000!”

That talk woke this man up. He did some really serious thinking for the first time in his business life. With the result that he refused the \$3,000 offer then, but kept the position open for a few weeks until he could get his big idea ready.

Then he not only landed his \$6,000, but made good on his idea so completely that within six months that \$6,000 was increased to \$7,200.

“There is guidance for each one of us,” says Emerson, “and by lowly listening we shall hear the right word.” Give of your best—not merely in manual labor but in ideas—and you can safely leave the rest to the guidance of the Holy Spirit within.

As pointed out in *The Secret of the Ages*, the basic principles of all business

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are the same, be they as big as the Steel Trust or as small as the corner newsstand. The whole practice of commerce is founded upon them. Summed up, and boiled down to the fewest possible words, they are two:

1—Give to get.

2—This one thing I do.

1—You can get away with dishonest values, with poor service, for a little while. You can take two dollars worth of value for every one you give. But the Law of Karma will get you soon or late. If you intend to stay in business, it pays to make it a rule to try to give a little more of value or of service than you are paid for.

2—Remember that each task, no matter how great, is but a group of little tasks, any one of which you can easily do. Like the great New York subways,

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it is but a succession of cellars connected together. Find a place to start. Take the first step. The rest will follow easily.

So many are afraid of giving too much for the amount that is paid them. And so many wives get inflated ideas of their husband's value to or work in a business, and urge them not to give so much unless the business pays them more for it.

Poor things—they mean well. But no man ever has to be urged not to work too hard at his business. He can work too hard at worrying about it—yes. But every bit of honest work he puts into his business will pay him an honest return. He is not working merely for some man or some institution. He is doing God's work. And God is the most generous Paymaster there is. He doesn't label His pay-checks. He doesn't say—"This is in

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payment of such-and-such invoices.” But the pay comes—just as surely as the day follows night.

“I cause those that love me to inherit substance; and I will fill their treasures.”
—Proverbs 8:21.

There is a place for you in the Divine plan—a place that no one but you can fill. There is a work for you in the great scheme of things—a work that no one can do as well as you.

So, if you have been drifting, if your work has been joyless, your business profitless, look around you for the right niche that was made for you to fill. Don't mind how humble it may seem. To do even the most humble thing supremely well is artistry—and will bring its reward. “Who sweeps a room as for God's law, makes that and the action fine.”

"Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one; and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour. For we are labourers together with God."—I Corinthians 3:8-9.

Let your daily prayer to the Spirit within you be that He manifest the Divine design in your life—that He bring you to your proper work, your right place.

Say to Him each day, as F. S. Shinn suggests in *The Game of Life and How to Play It*—"Infinite Spirit, open the way for the Divine design in my life to manifest. Let the genius within me now be released. Let me see clearly the perfect plan."

And then, if you like, ask Him to give you a lead, an indication of the next step for you to take.

"Call upon the Almighty," says the old

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Eastern Sage. "He will help thee. Thou needst not perplex thyself about anything else. Shut thy eyes and while thou art asleep, God will change thy bad fortune into good."

"Blessed *is* the man that trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is.

"For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and *that* spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit."—
JEREMIAH 17:7-8.

VII

Ich Dien—I Serve

“For the kingdom of heaven is as a man traveling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods.

“And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey.

“Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents.

“And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two.

“But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord’s money.

“After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them.

“And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more.

“His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

“He also that had received two talents came and

said, lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them.

"His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

"Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed:

"And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth; lo, there thou hast that is thine.

"His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed:

"Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury.

"Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents.

"For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath.

"And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth."—MATTHEW 25:14:30.

GOU want riches. You want five talents, ten talents, a thousand—a million. But what have you to offer in return? Has it never occurred to you that you must make an accounting of them?

If some one were to offer you a million right now, what would you do with it? Buy a yacht—an automobile—have a good time! But what sort of an accounting would that make for the Master? And why should He put Himself out to place riches in hands no better prepared to use them to good purpose than that?

Suppose you went to a banker for money—a banker who knew you well—and asked him to lend you \$100,000. What is the first question he would ask of you? “What are you going to do with it?”

If you could give him no better answer

than—"Buy a yacht, an automobile, have a good time"—how much do you suppose he would lend you? Not a red cent! No more will the Father which is in Heaven.

You have got to have an idea first before you can borrow money from a bank. And if the banker is wise, he will make you prove your idea in a small way before he will advance you any great sum to spend upon it.

And when you approach the Father for ten talents or a thousand, you must first have an idea that will be of some benefit to mankind.

Henry Ford is worth a billion dollars. He is probably the richest man in the world. How did he get it?

He started out with an idea—an idea that the automobile should be put within reach of everyone. That idea was of

definite benefit to mankind. It opened up remote districts. It brought light and life into the lives of millions of farm dwellers. He was entitled to a generous reward.

Woolworth accumulated a fortune of millions. He performed a definite service. So did Penny. So has many another merchant on a smaller scale. And the supply flows to him in proportion. But before reward, must come the idea. You must give to get.

The United States has become the richest of all peoples. Half the world's gold is in our possession. In 75 years the wealth of the country has increased fifty times over. All the world has become richer, but in no other country has the wealth increased to anything like that extent.

Why?

Some will say because of our great natural resources. But Mexico has great natural resources. So has Russia. And China. Yet all these countries are backward.

What then is the answer?

The fact that in America manufacturers have learned to share with the workers the fruits of industry. America began to forge ahead of the rest of the world the moment its manufacturers learned that every worker was entitled to a share of the good things of life.

Automobile manufacturers saw every workman as a potential automobile owner. And then proceeded to make that ideal feasible. Telephone companies, gas companies, electric light and equipment companies, radio manufacturers, saw every home as a user of their

products—and proceeded to put them within the reach of all.

Never since life first appeared upon this planet has there been so much of comfort, happiness and contentment among *all* the people as there is in these United States. And the reason? Free education. Equal opportunity. And the realization on the part of manufacturers that their best market and their biggest one is right among the workers—that the more they share with the workers, the more will come back to them.

You must give to get.

Russia has enormous resources of land and minerals and oil. So has China. And Mexico. Why then are they so poor?

Because the ruling classes have tried to keep all these riches for themselves. They wanted to take all—and give noth-

ing. That may work for a little while, but always there is an accounting.

“For they have sown the wind, and they shall reap the whirlwind: it hath no stalk: the bud shall yield no meal: if so be it yield, the strangers shall swallow it up.”—Hosea 8:7.

You must give to get.

There is a story by Samuel Butler that describes the idea exactly:

“In Erehwon,” he says, “he who makes a colossal fortune in the hosiery trade and by his energy has succeeded in reducing the price of woolen goods by the thousandth part of a penny in a pound, this man is worth ten professional philanthropists. So strongly are the Erehwonians impressed with this that if a man has made a fortune of over £20,000 a year they exempt him from all taxation, considering him as a work of art and too pre-

cious to be meddled with. They say, 'How much he must have done for society before society could be prevailed upon to give him so much money!' "

Unfortunately, we have not yet reached the ideal state visioned by Butler, where every millionaire earned his money through unusual service to the community. Too many are still robber captains or greedy money-lenders like Cassim.

The Law of Karma is steadily at work. Give it time. There is always an accounting. Meantime, thank God for the Fords and the Edisons and the Burbanks and the thousands of others of their kind who are not only making this the richest country on earth, but are helping to spread those riches around and make it also the happiest.

The Bank of God

The true purpose of every worthy business is to help in the distribution of God's gifts among men.

Judge your work, your ideas, by that standard. If you want money, if you seek riches, ask yourself—"Could I go to God and tell Him as my banker that the purpose for which I want this money is anything but a selfish one? Could I honestly assure Him that my primary idea is service—giving to people a little better value, a little more of service, a little greater comfort or convenience or happiness than they are now getting?"

Don't misunderstand me. You are entitled to money to meet your daily needs. You have a right to ask for all those things necessary to your happiness, as long as they do not infringe upon the hap-

piness of others. You even have a right to demand just as much more than that as you can use to advantage. *But you have got to account for it!*

Given a right idea, given a controlling thought, dollars will seek you, even as iron filings seek the magnet. You can claim all that you can use to good advantage.

So get your thought right first. Make sure that you have something the world needs. Then draw on the Great Banker for all the money you need, never fearing, never doubting that He will honor your draft.

“For the Lord God is a sun and shield. The Lord will give grace and glory. No good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.”—Psalms 84:11.

After all the proofs of God’s power to supply them with food and water. After

He had brought them safely through every conceivable danger. When another crucial time came, the children of Israel fearfully called out—"Can God furnish us a table in the wilderness?"—Psalms 78:19.

Of course He can!

"Hast thou not known? Hast thou not heard? That the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary?"—Isaiah 40:28.

Draw on Him as you need. Don't wait to start until you have all the money in hand. How many businesses—big and successful today—do you suppose would have been started if their founders had waited until they had all the money in hand they were going to need? Use the talent you have. Your credit is good for just as much more as you can use to ad-

vantage. More than that is a weight around your neck.

If you had a business proposition, and knew that your banker would extend you credit to the extent of a million dollars to develop it, you wouldn't think of drawing that million all at once. No—you would ask for credit as you needed it. You would draw upon it only as your business required it. You wouldn't burden yourself with one cent more of interest than was necessary.

Do likewise with the Lord. If your banker promised you the money as you needed it, you would go ahead with your plans, secure in the knowledge that his word was just as good as the actual money in the bank. Do you rate the promises of the Father any lower than those of man?

“Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the Lord your God: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first month.

“And the floors shall be full of wheat, and the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.

“And ye shall eat in plenty, and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, that hath dealt wondrously with you: and my people shall never be ashamed.

“And ye shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I am the Lord your God, and none else: and my people shall never be ashamed.—JOEL 2:21, 23, 24, 26, 27.

What is it you want money for? Get your idea clearly in mind. Satisfy yourself that it is for a worthy purpose. And when you are thoroughly satisfied of that, then go right ahead with your plans.

How much do you need for this stage of them? How much would you draw on the bank for, this moment, if you had unlimited credit there? \$100? \$1,000? \$10,000? Explain your need to the Father just as you would to a very wise

and sympathetic banker. Then tell Him you are drawing upon Him for that amount. Actually write out a draft and mail it—anywhere—to me if you like. Then go about your plans as confidently, as believingly, as though the Father's Bank were just around the corner.

But don't try to fool yourself. Above all, don't try to deceive the Father. Don't camouflage merely selfish desires in some high and mighty guise as benefits to mankind.

Remember the old Spanish Conquistadores? Freebooters they were—neither more nor less—searching for booty, and caring not how they came by it. They robbed the Indians, they massacred thousands, they enslaved whole nations—all for lust of gold.

But that wasn't their tale about it. They put it all upon the high and mighty

plane of spreading Christianity, of saving the souls of the heathen.

It worked for the Spaniards for a little while. But they became so puffed up that they thought to use the same ideas upon the heretics of England, of the Netherlands, upon the entire world. Then came the disastrous Armada, followed by swift and certain decline.

It was only 300 years ago that Spain was the richest nation in the world, her power pre-eminent in Europe, her sovereignty extending over most of America. Now look at her—even the Riffians laughed at her until France came to her aid.

We reap what we sow. A grain of corn planted reproduces only corn. A grain of wheat brings forth wheat. And the seed of the deadly night-shade brings forth poisonous flowers.

God cannot be mocked. We reap in kind exactly as we sow. "Be not deceived. God is not mocked; for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."—Galatians 6:7.

What then shall you do to succeed? What is the modern law of business? The same two commandments that Jesus gave to us 2,000 years ago.

"Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it. Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."—Matthew 23:37-40.

"Thou shalt love the Lord thy God." Thou shalt use the talents He has given thee. Thou shalt use them to benefit thy neighbor, to benefit all of mankind, and

in so doing thou shalt benefit thyself. Do that, and thy Lord will say unto thee: "Well done, thou good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

But to those who fail to use, or who *abuse* their talent, the Lord says even as he did of the unprofitable servant: "Take therefore the talent from him and cast him into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

VIII

The Coming of the Spirit

“Now about the midst of the feast Jesus went up into the temple, and taught.

“And the Jews marvelled, saying, How knoweth this man letters, having never learned?

“Jesus answered them, and said, My doctrine is not mine, but His that sent me.”—JOHN 7:14-16.

HERE was a certain Sultan of the Indies that had three sons, the eldest called Houssain, the second Ali, the third Ahmed.

He had also a niece, remarkable for her wit and beauty, named Nouronihar, whom all three Princes loved and desired to wed.

Their father remonstrated with them, pointed out the troubles that would ensue if they persisted in their attachment, and

did all he could to persuade them to abide by his choice of which of them should wed her.

Failing that, he sent for them one day and suggested that the three Princes should depart on a three-months' journey, each to a different country. Upon their return, whichever one should bring to him the most extraordinary rarity as a gift, should receive the Princess in marriage.

The three Princes cheerfully consented to this, each flattering himself that fortune would prove favorable to him. The Sultan gave them money, and early next morning they all went out at the same gate of the city, each dressed like a merchant, attended by a trusty officer habited as a slave, and all well mounted and equipped. The first day's journey they proceeded together; and at night, when

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they were at supper, they agreed to meet again in three months at the khan where they were stopping; and that the first who came should wait for the rest; so that as they had all three taken leave together of the Sultan, they might return in company. The next morning, after they had embraced and wished each other success, they mounted their horses, and took each a different road.

Prince Houssain, the eldest brother, had heard of the riches and splendor of the kingdom of Bisnagar and bent his course toward it.

Arriving there, he betook himself to the quarters of the traders, where a merchant, seeing him go by much fatigued, invited him to sit down in front of his shop. He had not been seated long before a crier appeared, with a small piece of carpeting on his arm, for which he

asked forty purses. The Prince told him that he could not understand how so small a piece of carpeting could be set at so high a price, unless it had something very extraordinary about it which failed to show in its appearance. "You have guessed right, sir," replied the crier; "whoever sits on this piece of carpeting may be carried in an instant wherever he desires." "If that is so," said the Prince, "I shall not think forty purses too much." "Sir," replied the crier, "I have told you the truth. Let us go into the back warehouse, where I will spread the carpet. When we have both sat down, form the wish to be transported into your apartment at the khan, and if we are not conveyed there at once, it shall be no bargain."

On the Prince agreeing to this, they went into the merchant's back shop,

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where they both sat down on the carpet; and as soon as the Prince had expressed his wish to be carried to his apartment at the khan, he in an instant found himself and the crier there. After this convincing proof of the virtue of the carpet, he paid over to the crier forty purses of gold, together with an extra purse for himself.

Prince Houssain was overjoyed at his good fortune, never doubting that this rare carpet would gain him the possession of the beautiful Nouronnihar.

After seeing all the wonders of Bisnagar, Prince Houssain wished to be nearer his dear Princess, so he took and spread the carpet, and with the officer whom he had brought with him, commanded the carpet to transport them to the caravansery at which he and his brothers were to meet, where he passed for a merchant till their arrival.

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Prince Ali, the second brother, designed to travel into Persia, so, after parting with his brothers, joined a caravan, and soon arrived at Shiraz, the capital of that empire.

Walking through the quarters of the jewelers, he was not a little surprised to see one who held in his hand an ivory tube, about a foot in length, and about an inch thick, which he priced at fifty purses. At first he thought the man mad, and asked him what he meant by asking fifty purses for a tube which seemed scarcely worth one. The jeweler replied, "Sir, you shall judge yourself whether I am mad or not, when I have told you the property of this tube. By looking through it, you can see whatever object you wish to behold."

The jeweler presented the tube to the Prince, and he looked through it, wishing

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at the same time to see the Sultan his father. Immediately he saw before him the image of his father, sitting on his throne, in the midst of his council. Next, he wished to see the Princess Nouronnihar; and instantly beheld her laughing and talking with the women about her.

Prince Ali needed no other proof to persuade him that this tube was the most valuable of gifts in all the world, and taking the crier to the khan where he lodged, paid him his fifty purses and received the tube.

Prince Ali was overjoyed at his purchase, for he felt fully assured that his brothers would not be able to meet with anything so rare and admirable, and the Princess Nouronnihar would be his. His only thought now was to get back to the rendezvous as speedily as might be, so without waiting to visit any of the won-

ders of Shiraz, he joined a party of merchants and arrived without accident at the place appointed, where he found Prince Houssain, and both waited for Prince Ahmed.

Prince Ahmed had taken the road to Samarcand, and the day after his arrival went, as his brothers had done, into the merchants quarters, where he had not walked long before he heard a crier, with an artificial apple in his hand, offer it at five-and-forty purses. "Let me see your apple," he said to the man, "and tell me what extraordinary property it possesses, to be valued at so high a rate." "Sir," replied the crier, giving the apple into his hand, "if you look at the mere outside of this apple it is not very remarkable; but if you consider its miraculous properties, you will say it is invaluable. It cures sick people of every manner of disease.

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Even if a person is dying, it will cure him instantly, and this merely by his smelling of the apple."

"If that be true," replied Prince Ahmed, "this apple is indeed invaluable; but how am I to know that it is true?"

"Sir," replied the crier, "the truth is attested by the whole city of Samarcand; ask any of these merchants here. Several of them will tell you they had not been alive today had it not been for this excellent remedy."

Many people had gathered round while they talked, and now confirmed what the crier had declared. One among them said he had a friend dangerously ill, whose life was despaired of; so they could now see for themselves the truth of all that was said. Upon this Prince Ahmed told the crier he would give him forty-

five purses for the apple if it cured the sick person by smelling it.

"Come, sir," said the crier to Prince Ahmed, "let us go and do it, and the apple shall be yours."

The sick man smelled of the apple, and was cured; and the prince, after he had paid the forty-five purses, received the apple. He then joined himself to the first caravan that set out for the Indies, and arrived in perfect health at the caravansery, where the Princes Houssain and Ali waited for him.

The brothers embraced with tenderness, and felicitated each other on their safe journeys.

They then fell to comparing gifts. Houssain showed the carpet and told how it had brought him thither. Ali brought out the ivory tube, and nothing would do but they must at once look

through it at their beloved. But—alas and alack! for the sight that met their eyes. The Princess Nouronihar lay stretched on her bed, seemingly at the point of death.

When Prince Ahmed had seen this, he turned to his two brothers. "Make haste," he adjured them, "lose no time; we may save her life. This apple which I hold here has this wonderful property—its smell will restore to life a sick person. I have tried it and will show you its wonderful effect on the Princess, if you will but hasten to her."

"If haste be all," answered Houssain, "we cannot do better than transport ourselves instantly into her chamber on my magic carpet. Come, lose no time, sit down, it is large enough to hold us all."

The order was no sooner given than

they found themselves carried into the Princess Nouronihar's chamber.

Prince Ahmed rose off the carpet, and went to her bedside, where he put the apple to her nostrils. Immediately the Princess opened her eyes, expressed her joy at seeing them, and thanked them all for their efforts in her behalf.

While she was dressing, the Princes went to present themselves to the Sultan, their father. The Sultan received them with joy. The Princes presented each the rarity which he had brought, and begged of him to pronounce their fate.

The Sultan of the Indies considered what answer he should make. At last he said, "I would that I could declare for one of you, my sons, but I cannot do it with justice. It is true, Ahmed, that the Princess owes her cure to your artificial apple; but let me ask you, could you have

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cured her if you had not known of the danger she was in through Ali's tube, and if Houssain's carpet had not brought you to her so quickly? Your tube, Ali, discovered to you and your brothers the illness of your cousin; but the knowledge of her illness would have been of no service without the artificial apple and the carpet. And as for you, Houssain, your carpet was an essential instrument in effecting her cure. But it would have been of little use, if you had not known of her illness through Ali's tube, or if Ahmed had not been there with his artificial apple. Therefore, as I see it, the carpet, the ivory tube, and the artificial apple have no preference over each other, on the contrary, each had an equal share in her cure."

The story goes on to tell how the Sultan, after repeated trials, finally did

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choose a husband for the Princess. How Prince Ali wed her. How Prince Ahmed wandered away, disconsolate. How he met the Fairy Princess Banou. And how through her he finally won the greatest prize of all—contact with the Spirit within that knows all, sees all and can do all things.

In *The Secret of the Ages*, I endeavored to show how your subconscious mind can be made to serve as the Ivory Tube, giving you the answer to any problem you may put up to it in the right way.

In later volumes of this set, I shall try to prove to you how the Spirit within can and gladly *will* serve you better than Magic Carpet or Curative Apple. Length of days is in His right hand, freedom from fear, protection from harm, health, happiness and prosperity.

Do I promise too much? Just listen:

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"But be ye glad and rejoice for ever in that which I create: for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy.

"And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people: and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying.

"There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days:

"And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them.

"They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat: for as the days of a tree are the days of my people, and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands.

"They shall not labour in vain, nor bring forth for trouble; for they are the seed of the blessed of the Lord, and their offspring with them.

"And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear."—ISAIAH 65:18-24.

But how to find this Kingdom? Let us see what Jesus says—"Except a man be born again, he shall in no wise enter into the kingdom."

How shall man be born again? "Master," asked His disciples, "do you mean

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that a person must go back into his mother's body, must have a birth again on this earth, before he can enter into the kingdom of which you tell us?"

"Ye must be born again of water and of the Spirit," Jesus told them.

"Of water and of the Spirit." Let us see how this Spirit came to Jesus Himself.

"Now when all the people were baptized, it came to pass, that Jesus also being baptized, and praying, the heaven was opened.

"And the Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him, and a voice came from heaven, which said, Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased."—LUKE 3:21-22.

"It Is the Spirit That Quickeneth"

"And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness.

"And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee: and there went out a fame of him through all the region round about."—LUKE 4:1,14.

Then Jesus went up into the Temple to preach. "And there was delivered unto him the book of

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the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written.”—

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised.

“To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.”
—MATTHEW 61.

What, then, shall we do to be saved? How shall we bring the Holy Spirit into our lives? How find the Kingdom here on earth?

Step by step, Jesus showed us the way. He “was led by the Spirit into the wilderness”—into rest, into quiet, into thought. He retired to where he could be alone for a while, where he could concentrate his thoughts without outside distractions, where he could commune with the Father.

“Praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Ghost descended upon Him.” And if we will pray rightly, the heaven

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will open to us and the Holy Ghost will come upon us.

But He will never do it for the mere repetition of lip prayers that we have learned by rote.

The Soul's Sincere Desire

*Do you know what prayer is? Just an earnest desire that we take to God—to Universal Mind—for fulfillment. As Montgomery puts it—"Prayer is the soul's sincere desire, uttered or unexpressed." It is our Heart's Desire. At least, the only prayer that is worth anything is the prayer that asks for our real desires. That kind of prayer is heard. That kind of prayer is answered.

Mere lip prayers get you nowhere. It doesn't matter what your lips may say. The thing that counts is what your heart

*From *The Secret of the Ages*.

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desires, what your mind images on your subconscious thought, and through it on Divine Mind. "And when thou prayest, be not as the hypocrites are; for they love to pray standing in the synagogue and at the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, they have their reward."—Matthew 6:5.

What was it these hypocrites that Jesus speaks of really wanted? "To be seen of men." And their prayers were answered. Their sincere desire was granted. They were seen of men. "They have their reward." But as for what their lips were saying, neither God nor they paid any attention to it.

"But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut the door, pray to thy Father which is in secret, and thy Father which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly. But

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when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do. For they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking. Be not ye therefore like unto them. For your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask Him.”—Matthew 6:6-8.

Go where you can be alone, where you can concentrate your thoughts on your one innermost sincere desire, where you can impress that desire upon the Spirit within, and so reach the Father.

But even sincere desire is not enough by itself. There must be BELIEF, too. “What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye *receive* them and ye shall *have* them.” You must realize God’s ability to give you every good thing. You must believe in his readiness to do it. Model your thoughts after the Psalmists of old. They first asked for

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that which they wanted, then killed all doubts and fears by affirming God's power and His willingness to grant their prayers.

What is it you want most right now? Ask yourself frankly—Is it good that I should receive this? Is it right? Will it work no injustice to anyone else? Then have no hesitancy in asking it of the Father—secure in the knowledge that anything of good He will gladly give to you. Here is His promise. Read it, and see if you can still doubt:

“I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in Him will I trust.

“Surely He shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence.

“He shall cover thee with His feathers, and under His wings shalt thou trust: His truth shall be thy shield and buckler.

“Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day.

“Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday.

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"A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee.

"Because thou hast made the Lord, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation.

"There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.

"For He shall give His angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.

"They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.

"Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under foot.

"Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name.

"He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him.

"With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation."—PSALMS 91:6.

"Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life. And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."—PSALMS 23:6.

So far we can follow in the footsteps of Jesus. So far we can contact with the Holy Spirit. But how about His miracles? How about His miraculous cures

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of the sick, the lame, the halt and the blind? Can we follow Him there, too?

Let us see what He says. "The works that I do shall ye do also, and greater works than these shall ye do."

That was a promise. A promise that was made—not merely to His immediate followers—but to ALL who believed! And that promise held good throughout the first three centuries of the Christian era, while it remained fresh in men's minds. It was only when Christianity became the State religion, and Constantine broidered it with too many forms, that the healing power was forgotten and lost.

Again, when Jesus sent His disciples forth, He told them to—"Go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the

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dead, cast out devils; freely ye have received, freely give."

Nothing indirect or obscure about that, is there? The command to preach the Gospel is no more positive than the command to heal the sick. If one was to be kept up by succeeding generations, surely the other was, too.

And in the way Jesus prepared His disciples for their work, in the directions He gave to them, and in the detailed accounts they have left for us of how Jesus performed his miraculous cures and of how the power came to the Apostles we find, step by step, methods that we too can use.

They were simple folk—these Apostles—unlearned, inexperienced, and until the coming of the Holy Spirit, most amazing timid. Jesus' instructions had need to be plain to be grasped by their unpracticed minds.

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Don't you suppose that you, with all the advantages of a modern education, can follow them quite as easily, can practice them just as successfully?

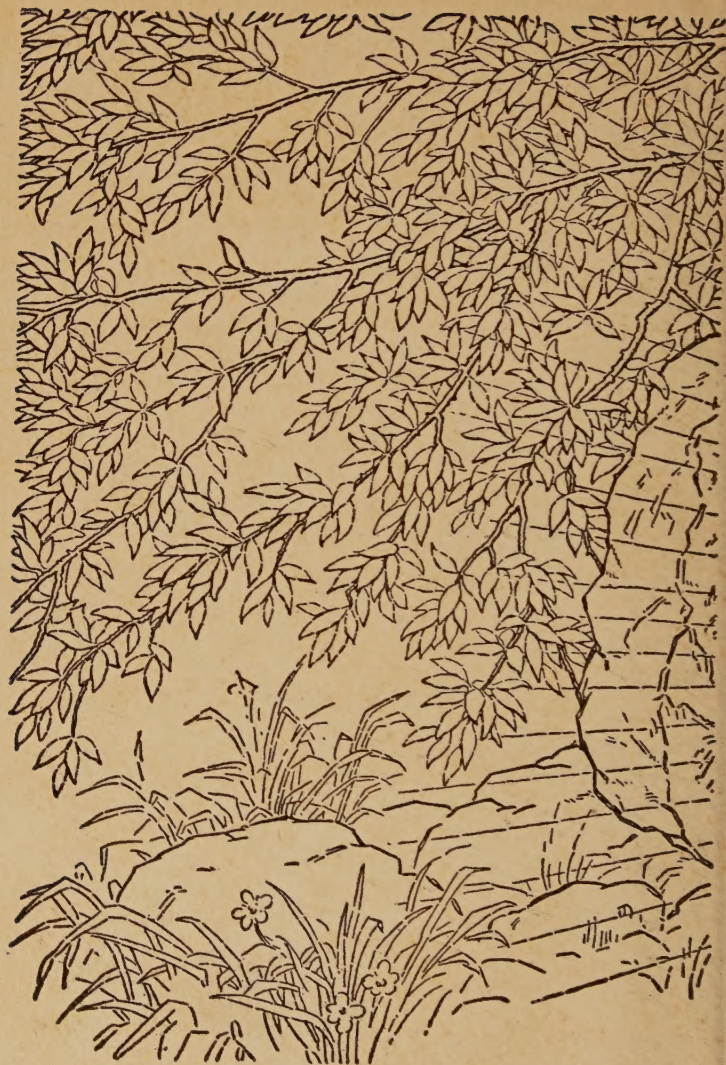
Let's try! In the volumes to come, I am going to do my humble best to show the way.

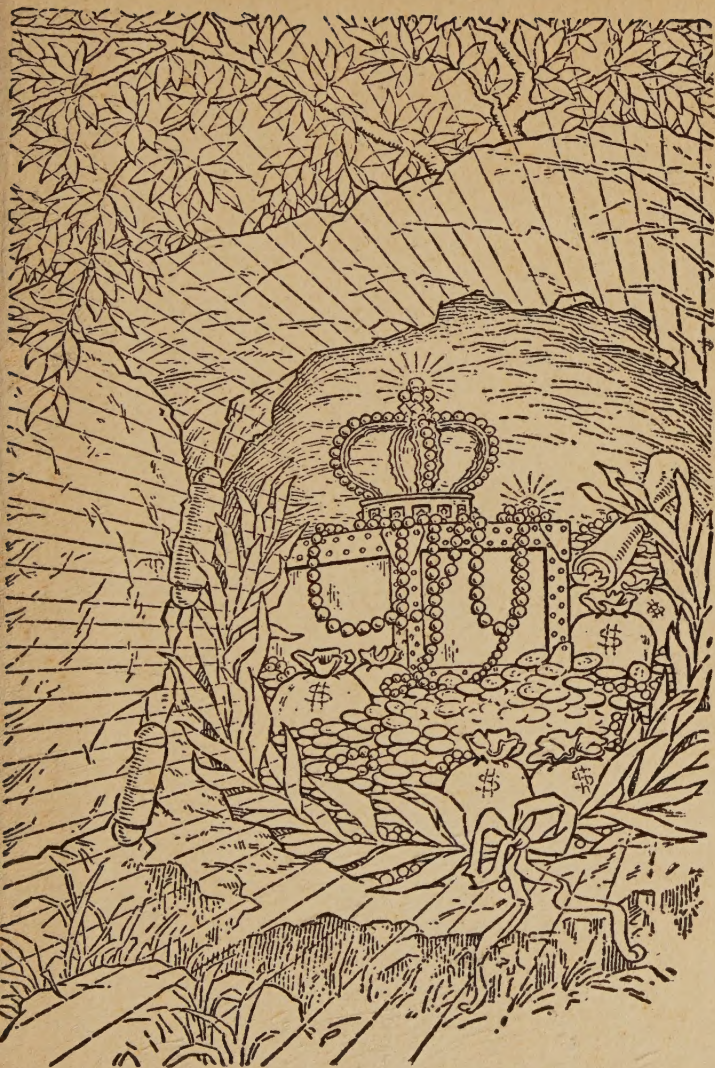
"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.

"That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."—II TIMOTHY 3:16-17.

THE PROMISE

"The promise is that we may do all things through the mind that was in Christ Jesus."







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